

The Museum of Modern Art

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FACT SHEET

EXHIBITION CARL TH. DREYER

DATES February 17 - March 5, 1989

ORGANIZATION Jytte Jensen, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Film,
The Museum of Modern Art

FOCUS This major retrospective is devoted to the works of Danish filmmaker Carl Theodor Dreyer (1889-1968) on the occasion of the centennial of his birth. Dreyer is widely regarded as one of the masters of cinema. Characterized in style and content by a universal expression of the human experience, his approach to film is unique in both a Danish and an international context.

CONTENT This film program offers a rare look at Dreyer's entire body of work, which ranges from satirical humor to penetrating psychological drama. His formidable reputation in this country is based upon four of his more austere films, The Passion of Joan of Arc (1928), Day of Wrath (1943), Ordet (1954), and Gertrud (1964). The series also includes lesser known works such as his second film, the tragic Leaves From Satan's Book (1919-21) and the lighter, more humorous The Parson's Widow (1920). Among Dreyer's lyrical works are The Bride of Glomdal (1925), set in an idyllic, pastoral atmosphere, and Once Upon a Time (1922), the filmmaker's version of a classic Danish fairytale. The Master of the House (1925) is a satirical story of a tyrannical husband and is based on a popular Danish melodrama.

TRAVEL After its New York showing, the exhibition travels to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (March 1989); the Pacific Film Archive, University Art Museum, U.C. Berkeley (April 1989); Cleveland Cinematheque (June 1989); the American Film Institute, Washington D.C. (July 1989); the UCLA Film and Television Archive, Los Angeles (July - August 1989); The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (August 1989); Cinémathèque Québécoise (September 1989); and Film in the Cities, Minneapolis (October 1989).

PUBLICATION Carl Th. Dreyer. Edited by Jytte Jensen. Introduction by Ib Monty, Director, Danish Film Museum. Essays by Jytte Jensen, Carren Kaston, and James Schamus. Includes an English translation of Dreyer's film script, Medea; a filmography; and a selected bibliography. 96 pages. 60 black-and-white film and production stills. Published by The Museum of Modern Art, softcover (\$9.95).

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For further information or film stills, contact Sarah Eaton, film press representative, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9752.